



CONGRESSMAN HENRY A. WAXMAN NEWS

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WAXMAN SUPPORTS NEW FUNERAL COSTS RULES

Congressman Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) has expressed strong support for the rules recently announced by the Federal Trade Commission requiring detailed itemization of funeral charges.

Waxman said he expected the powerful funeral industry lobby to try to get Congress to overturn the new regulations.

"For years much of the funeral industry has exploited consumers at their moment of deepest grief when their ability to make rational choices was most impaired. The bereaved family has every right to know exactly how much they are paying for the casket, hearse, and other goods and services connected with the funeral. They have the right to use their own judgment as to what kind of service they want and how much they are able to spend. The new rule requiring itemized pricing will make it possible for them to exercise that right."

In view of the recent congressional veto of the FTC crackdown on used car dealers, Waxman predicted a bitter battle with Congress over the funeral rules.

"The funeral industry has just seen one special interest group steamroll the Congress into acting against the consumers' best interests. I am going to do everything in my power to try to save the FTC funeral industry reforms. The new rules will help consumers enormously without being unfair or to the industry in any way."

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